

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 (Currently amended) Head restraint of a vehicle seat, in which at least one container having an elastically deformable, gas tight covering is integrated, said container being filled with a gas and at least partially with filling bodies and being provided with at least one duct which is connected to an evacuator assembly for an abrupt evacuation of the gas in the event of a crash and for refilling of the gas, a vacuum being applied automatically in the event of said crash.

2. (Original) Head restraint according to Claim 1,
wherein the evacuator assembly is activated by a pre-crash sensory mechanism.

3. (Previously presented) Head restraint according to Claim 1,
wherein the evacuator assembly for an abrupt evacuation of the gas in the event of a crash and for refilling of the gas is integrated below or within the vehicle seat.

4. (Previously presented) Head restraint according to Claim 1,
wherein the container is divided into a plurality of chambers which are at least partially filled with the filling bodies.

5. (Previously presented) Head restraint according to Claim 4,
wherein the chambers are designed being one of hermetically sealed with respect to one another and at least partially gas-conductively connected to one another.

6. (Original) Head restraint according to Claim 1,

wherein the filling bodies consist of different materials.

7. (Previously presented) Head restraint according to Claim 6,
wherein the materials for the filling bodies comprise deformable and non-deformable materials.
8. (Previously presented) Head restraint according to Claim 1,
wherein the duct has at least one valve device of the evacuator assembly located therein.
9. (Original) Head restraint according to Claim 1,
wherein the duct is connected to a vacuum pump of the evacuator assembly.
10. (Previously presented) Head restraint according to Claim 9,
wherein a pump for a central locking system in the vehicle can be used as the vacuum pump.
11. (Original) Head restraint according to Claim 1,
wherein the duct is connected to a vacuum reservoir container of the evacuator assembly.
12. (Original) Head restraint according to Claim 1,
wherein the duct is connected to an overpressure container.
13. (Original) Head restraint according to Claim 1,
wherein the duct has a Venturi nozzle.
14. (Currently amended) A vehicle head restraint assembly comprising:
at least one container with an elastically deformable covering,
gas and filling bodies in the at least one container,
a duct connected to the at least one container, and

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an evacuator operable in use to evacuate the gas from the at least one container through the duct, a vacuum being applied automatically to the container in the event of a crash,

15. (Previously presented) A vehicle head restraint assembly according to Claim 14, further comprising a pre-crash sensing mechanism operable to activate the evacuator in response to a predetermined crash event involving a vehicle including said head restraint assembly.

16. (Original) A vehicle head restraint assembly according to Claim 14, comprising a plurality of said containers together forming a head restraint.

17. (Currently amended) A vehicle passenger seat assembly comprising:
a backrest,
a headrest composed of at least one container with an elastically deformable covering,
gas and filling bodies in the at least one container,
a duct connected to the container, and
an evacuator operable in use to evacuate the gas from the at least one container through the duct,
wherein said evacuator is disposed at least in part in said backrest, a vacuuming being applied automatically to the container in the event of a crash.

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18. (Previously presented) A vehicle passenger seat assembly according to Claim 17, further comprising a pre-crash sensing mechanism operable to activate the evacuator in response to a predetermined crash event involving a vehicle including said head restraint assembly.

19. (Currently amended) A method of making a vehicle head restraint assembly, comprising:

connecting a plurality of containers together, which said containers each include an elastically deformable covering,

filling at least one of the containers with gas and filling bodies,
attaching a duct to communicate with an interior space of the at least
one of the containers, and

providing an evacuator operable to evacuate gas from the at least one
of the containers through the duct automatically in the event of a crash.

20. (Previously presented) A method of operating a vehicle head
restraint assembly which includes:

at least one container with an elastically deformable covering,
gas and filling bodies in the at least one container,
a duct connected to the at least one container,
said method comprising evacuating gas from the at least one
container through said duct in response to detection of a vehicle crash condition.
